大学英语能力进阶阅读系列教材

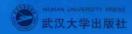
大学英语能力进阶

阅读教程

第一册

文芳 主编

READIN



大学英语能力进阶

阅读教程

第一册

主编文芳副主编胡丹王明月余泳芳张惠兰

R E A D I N G



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前言

2018年,《中国英语能力等级量表》正式公布,标志着中国英语教学进入了一个新的阶段。《中国英语能力等级量表》立足于中国国情和现状,从时代发展的新需求出发,旨在为我国英语学习、教学、测评之间架起一座连通的桥梁。《中国英语能力等级量表》分为9个级别,对应于我国从初学到高级各个水平级别的英语学习者,其内容包括语言理解能力描述、语言表达能力描述、语用能力描述、语言知识描述、语言使用策略能力描述和翻译能力描述。各种能力的发展均离不开阅读能力的培养,于是《大学英语能力进阶阅读系列教材》应运而生。

《大学英语能力进阶阅读系列教材》对应于《中国英语能力等级量表》的 5~7级,与《大学英语教学指南》基础级别、提高级别和发展级别大致相当,阅读对象为中国高等学校非英语专业的本科生。系列教材一共分为四册,分别对应《中国英语能力等级量表》的 4~5级、5级、6级和6~7级。第一册旨在完成从高中英语阅读能力到大学英语阅读能力的过渡,第四册完成从大学英语阅读能力到专业英语高级别阅读能力的过渡。第二册和第三册培养非英语专业大学生的阅读能力。本系列教材具有以下三个特点:

第一,以《中国英语能力等级量表》为基础,发展大学生英语阅读能力。《中国英语能力等级量表》以"能做"作为描述语,准确描述了各个级别阅读材料的体裁和话题。5~7级涵盖不同场合中一般性话题、一般性专业话题的多种话题、学术性材料的多种话题。本系列教材每一册选材都对接《中国英语能力等级量表》对于阅读能力的描述,涵盖了对应级别中所描述

的人/事/物/景、日常生活、社会生活、文化、科技、人文、时事热点等话题。

第二,以阅读量为导向,发展大学生英语速读能力。传统阅读教材一般是以培养"自上而下"或者"自下而上"阅读策略为目标,通过"精读"或者"泛读"培养大学生的阅读能力。本系列教材强调大学生速读能力的培养,从第一册开始阅读材料一般为1,000字左右,然后阅读材料长度逐级上升。速读成为首要的阅读能力培养目标,同时也强调发展大学生的多维阅读能力。

第三,以各种阅读题型为手段,发展大学生阅读测试能力。传统阅读 教材阅读题型较为单一,一般常用题型为单句判断题、单项选择题和翻译 题。本系列教材吸纳雅思和托福阅读测试题型,加入了段落配对题、选词 填空题和问答写作题等。丰富的阅读题型的设计,便于学生快速适应雅 思、托福等国际化考试。

本系列教材的编写团队是由武汉大学外国语言文学学院大学英语部骨于教师组成。他们不仅具有高度负责任的态度,而且还具有多年的教学经验和教材编写经验。编委会特别感谢汪火焰、吴新华、刘四平、余诗龙、阮琳、张青、祝捷、顾颖和张鸿等老师对于教材前期撰写准备工作所做的指导。

由于时间仓促、错误在所难免,欢迎广大师生、广大读者批评指正。

编者

2018年7月18日

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Unit 1 Stories

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Text A Waiting

By Margaret Atwood, excerpted from The Penelopiad

- [1] What can I tell you about the next ten years? Odysseus sailed away to Troy. I stayed in Ithaca. The sun rose, traveled across the sky, set. Only sometimes did I think of it as the flaming chariot of Helios^①. The moon did the same, changing from phase to phase. Only sometimes did I think of it as the silver boat of Artemis². Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter followed one another in their appointed rounds. Quite often the wind blew. Telemachus grew from year to year, eating a lot of meat, indulged by all.
- [2] We had news of how the war with Troy was going: sometimes well, sometimes badly. Minstrels sang songs about the notable heroes-Achilles, Ajax, Agamemnon, Menelaus, Hector, Aeneas³, and the rest. I didn't care about them; I waited only for news of Odysseus. When would he come back and relieve my boredom? He too appeared in the songs, and I relished those moments. There he was making an inspiring speech, there he was uniting the quarreling factions, there he was inventing an astonishing falsehood, there he was delivering

⁽¹⁾ Helios is the Greek god of the Sun.

Artemis is the Greek goddess of the Moon.

These men were the heroes of Homer's *Iliad*, his account of the battle of Troy.

sage advice, there he was disguising himself as a runaway slave and sneaking into Troy and speaking with Helen[®] herself, who—the song proclaimed—had bathed him and anointed him with her very own hands.

- [3] I wasn't so fond of that part.
- [4] Finally, there he was, concocting the stratagem of the wooden horse filled with soldiers². And then—the news flashed from beacon to beacon—Troy had fallen. There were reports of a great slaughtering and looting in the city. The streets ran red with blood, the sky above the palace turned to fire; innocent children were thrown off a cliff, and the Trojan women were parceled out as plunder, King Priam's daughters among them. And then, finally, the hoped-for news arrived; the Greek ships had set sail for home.
- [5] And then, nothing.
- [6] Day after day I would climb up to the top floor of the palace and look out over the harbor. Day after day there was no sign. Sometimes there were ships, but never the ship I longed to see.
- [7] Rumors came, carried by other ships. Odysseus and his men had got drunk at their first port of call and the men had mutinied, said some; no, said others, they'd eaten a magic plant that had caused them to lose their memories, and Odysseus had saved them by having them tied up and carried onto the ships. Odysseus had been in a fight with a

① Helen refers to the Helen of Troy, who was, according to myth, the most beautiful woman in Greece and the cause of the Trojan War.

The wooden horse refers to Odysseus' successful plan to get inside the fortress at Troy by building a gigantic wooden horse and offering it as a gift of peace. The Trojans accepted the gift, not knowing that Greek soldiers were hiding inside it.

giant one-eyed Cyclops, said some; no, it was only a one-eyed tavern keeper, said another, and the fight was over non-payment of the bill. Some of the men had been eaten by cannibals, said some; no, it was just a brawl of the usual kind, said others, with ear-bitings and nosebleeds and stabbings and eviscerations. Odysseus was the guest of a goddess on an enchanted isle, said some; she'd turned his men into pigs—not a hard job in my view—but had turned them back into men because she'd fallen in love with him and was feeding him unheard-of delicacies prepared by her own immortal hands; no, said others, he was sponging off the woman.

- [8] Needless to say, the minstrels took up these themes and embroidered them considerably. They always sang the noblest versions in my presence—the ones in which—Odysseus was clever, brave, and resourceful, and battling supernatural monsters, and beloved of goddesses. The only reason he hadn't come back home was that a god—the sea-god Poseidon, according to some—was against him, because a Cyclops crippled by Odysseus was his son. Or several gods were against him. Or the Fates. Or something. For surely—the minstrels implied, by way of praising me—only a strong divine power could keep my husband from rushing back as quickly as possible into my loving—and lovely—wifely arms.
- [9] The more thickly they laid it on, the more costly were the gifts they expected from me. I always complied. Even an obvious fabrication is some comfort when you have few others.
- [10] It was hard to know what to believe. Sometimes I thought people were making things up just to alarm me, and to watch my eyes fill with tears. There is a certain zest to be had in tormenting the

vulnerable.

[11] Any rumor was better than none, however, so I listened avidly to all.

But after several more years the rumors stopped coming altogether:

Odysseus seemed to have vanished from the face of the earth.

(759 words)

Task	1	Choose	the	best	answer	to	each	question	based	on
		TEXT A	A .							

	TEXT A.
1.	The author redrafts the story of Homer's $Odyssey$ from the point of
	view of?
	A. Minstrels
	B. Odysseus
	C. Odysseus' wife
	D. Artemis
2.	What is the hoped-for news of Odysseus for the narrator?
	A. He was making an inspiring speech.

- B. He was disguising himself as a runaway slave.
- C. He was concocting the stratagem of the wooden horse.
- D. He was rushing back home on the Greek ships.
- 3. In the presence of the narrator, the minstrels characterized Odysseus as someone who _____?
 - A. did not respect the sea-god Poseidon
 - B. was a noble hero
 - C. was sponging off the woman
 - D. fought over non-payment of the bill at a tavern.
- 4. What is the tone of the narrator in Paragraph 8 ("Needless to say, the minstrels... into my loving—and lovely—wifely arms.")?

	A. Neutral.
	B. Sarcastic.
	C. Praising.
	D. Shocking.
Ď.	The minstrels' exaggerating and embroidering versions of Odysseus
	voyage are for
	A. comforting the narrator
	B. the noble image of Odysseus
	C. the unity of the land
	D. the practical material benefit
þ	Task 2 Replace the underlined words below with appropriate
	paraphrases from TEXT A.
) 1. Telemachus grew up, spoiled by people around him.
ć) 2. Odysseus was giving sensible advice.
6) 3. Odysseus was making up a shocking lie.
	4. It was just a usual fight, with ear-bitings and nosebleeds.
) 5. Minstrels asked me for costly gifts, and I always obeyed.
	Task 3 Complete each statement (1-4) with the correc
	endings (A-F) based on TEXT A.
50	ean TEXT A to locate the information in the sentence beginnings (1-4)
	ead the relevant part of the passage carefully, then choose the bes
	entence endings (A-F).
() 1. The moments Odysseus appeared in the minstrels' songs
	2. In reports of a great slaughtering and looting in Troy
	3. In rumors about Odysseus' return journey
4	, United the second of

- () 4. In the noblest version of Odysseus' home-return wandering
- A. the sea-god Poseidon was against him because his son was crippled by Odysseus.
- B. King Priam's daughters were among the plunders.
- C. he was making up the plan of the wooden horse.
- D. the streets were covered with blood.
- E. the soldiers refused to obey Odysseus' orders at their first port of call.
- F. Odysseus was living at the expense of a goddess on an enchanted isle.

Text B Rules of the Game

By Amy Tan, excerpted from The Joy Luck Club

- [1] I was six when my mother taught me the art of invisible strength. It was a strategy for winning arguments, respect from others, and eventually, though neither of us knew it at the time, chess games.
- [2] "Bite back your tongue," scolded my mother when I cried loudly, yanking her hand toward the store that sold bags of salted plums. At home, she said, "Wise guy, he not go against wind. In Chinese we say, Come from South, blow with wind—poom! —North will follow. Strongest wind cannot be seen."
- [3] The next week I bit back my tongue as we entered the store with the forbidden candies. When my mother finished her shopping, she quietly plucked a small bag of plums from the rack and put it on the counter with the rest of the items.
- [4] My mother imparted her daily truths so she could help my older brothers and me rise above our circumstances. We lived in San Francisco's Chinatown. Like most of the other Chinese children who played in the back alleys of restaurants and curio shops, I didn't think we were poor. My bowl was always full, three five-course meals every day, beginning with a soup full of mysterious things I didn't want to know the names of.